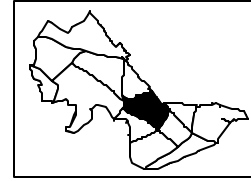


# NEIGHBORHOOD 6

## MID-CAMBRIDGE



**BOUNDARIES:** bordered by Massachusetts Avenue, Prospect Street, Hampshire Street, the Somerville border, Kirkland Street, Quincy Street, and Cambridge Street

**POPULATION:** 13,006 residents  
5,989 households

**AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD INCOME:**  
\$37,075

Neighborhood #6 is encompassed in the patrol boundaries of Car 2 (2 officers) and 6R (1 officer). It also includes walking routes 6A, 6B, and 6C.

### 2001 SECOND QUARTER REVIEW

For a neighborhood with the highest population and with the city's only public high school, crime is fairly low, although it is still higher than average for many crimes. • March saw the most activity involving **housebreaks**, accounting for 19 of the 43 incidents this quarter, including 5 of the 11 multiple breaks. A variety of property was taken during these breaks, including computers, jewelry, cash, and purses. • After a 90% decrease in **street robberies** from 1999 to 2000, the declining trend spilled over to this year, dropping another 38%. Of the 5 robberies, only 1 perpetrator brandished a handgun, which is an extremely low number for Mid-Cambridge when compared to last year's 4 incidents. • Although there were no apparent trends, **auto theft** increased by 33%. Most activity occurred during the late week into the weekend. Broadway saw the most activity with three incidents while the others were spread around Mid-Cambridge. • Accordingly, **larcenies from MVs** increased as well, including 10 larcenies that occurred in June, the most any month has seen. 10 incidents occurred via an unlocked door, while other means of gaining entry were by breaking a window and picking the door lock. The parking garages in the 200 block of Harvard Street have reported problems in the past and accounted for 3 of the incidents this quarter. • **Malicious destruction** centers on aborted breaks into cars and various anger-motivated attacks. However, also included in this total are several graffiti incident, accounting for 10 of the 52 incidents. • Of the 8 **drug arrests** made this quarter, one stood out after the perpetrator attempted to pass a false prescription for pain relievers.

### COMPARISON OF TARGET CRIME STATISTICS SECOND QUARTER 2000 & 2001

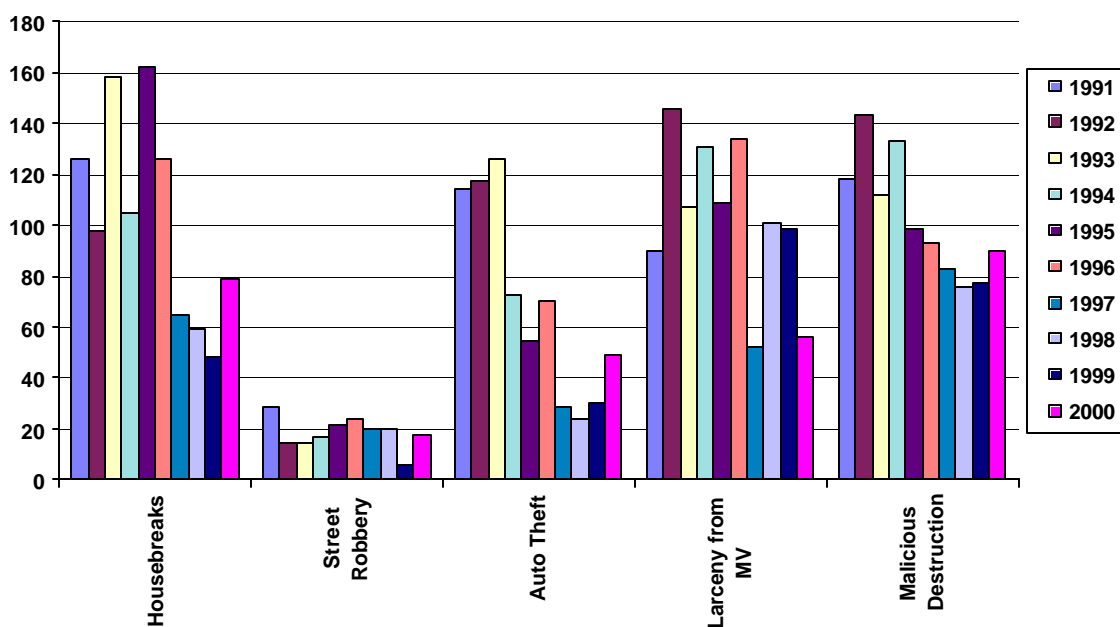
CRIME	2 <sup>nd</sup> Q 2000	2 <sup>nd</sup> Q 2001	% CHANGE
Housebreaks	31	43	+ 39%
Street Robbery	8	5	- 38%
Auto Theft	18	24	+ 33%
Larceny from MVs	33	52	+ 58%
Malicious Destruction	43	52	+ 21%
Drug Arrests	8	8	N.C.

## NEIGHBORHOOD PROFILE AND HISTORICAL SYNOPSIS

Mid-Cambridge is a busy neighborhood. In addition to the highest population of any neighborhood in Cambridge, Mid-Cambridge also has the city's largest high school (Cambridge Rindge & Latin), the Jackson Gardens residential complex, a good portion of Harvard University, and our own City Hall. It is bordered by the major thoroughways of Massachusetts Avenue, Prospect Street, and Cambridge Street, and three of the city's five busiest squares (Central, Harvard, and Inman) occupy its corners.

Because of the enormous number of people living, working, shopping, and going to school within its borders, Mid-Cambridge tends to have a higher than average rate for several crimes. *Harvard University, which has its own police department, patrols Harvard property in the western part of the neighborhood. Our statistics do not reflect most incidents that occur on Harvard University property.*

- **Residential Burglary** is naturally highest in a neighborhood with the largest number of residences. Though the rate of this crime has been cut in half since the 1980s, it still remains a serious problem. In 1992, burglaries fell below 100 for the first and only time in the previous 30 years. The largest clusters appear on Harvard Street between Prospect and Lee Streets, on Broadway between Lee and Ellery Streets, around the Massachusetts Avenue/Hancock Street intersection, on the lower half of Trowbridge Street, and on Lee Street. Mid-Cambridge also ranks high in **Larceny from motor vehicles** and the related crimes of **auto theft** and **malicious destruction**. The Cambridge Police Department strives to reduce both crimes through preventive patrol efforts, "Park and Walks," and priority investigation. Its 50 percent drop since the 1980s bespeaks some success.
- **Street robbery** is surprisingly low in Mid-Cambridge given its population. Most of the incidents that do occur happen on Massachusetts Avenue, on Cambridge Street, and in Inman Square.
- The high amount of pedestrian traffic on Massachusetts Avenue leads to a large number of **bicycle thefts** each year, particularly in or near Harvard Square.



ANNUAL AVERAGE FOR MID-CAMBRIDGE AREA TARGET CRIMES					
Crime	1981-1990	Rank 81-90*	1991-2000	Rank 91-00*	Rank 2000*
Housebreaks	226	1	103	1	1
Street Robbery	49	3	18	5	5
Auto Theft	147	4	70	3	4
Larceny from MVs	198	1	106	2	5
Malicious Destruction	149	1	106	5	5